1	FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
2	COUNTY OF MAUI
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7	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
8	REGULAR MEETING
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13	Held via BlueJeans, commencing at 10:00 a.m., on
14	June 17, 2021.
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19	REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424
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1	ATTENDANCE
2	COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:
3	Kyle Ginoza, Chair
4	Lisa Vares, Vice Chair
5	Gregg Lundberg, Member
6	Dwight Burns, Member
7	Donna Sterling, Member
8	Punahele Alcon, Member
9	Max Kincaid, Jr., Member
10	Dylan Andrion, Member
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12	STAFF:
13	David Thyne, Fire Chief
14	Bradford Ventura, Deputy Fire Chief
15	Michael Werner, Battalion Chief
16	Richard Kawasaki, Assistant Fire Chief
17	Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel
18	Richelle Wakamatsu, Commission Secretary
19	Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency
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1	(June 17, 2021, 10:00 a.m.)
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3	CHAIR GINOZA: Good morning, everyone. It is
4	Thursday, June 17th, and I'd like to call to order the Maui
5	Fire and Public Safety Commission. My name is Kyle Ginoza,
6	Chair of the commission. I'd like to start off with roll
7	call.
8	Vice Chair Lisa Vares.
9	VICE CHAIR VARES: Here, Chair.
10	CHAIR GINOZA: Hi, Lisa.
11	Gregg Lundberg.
12	COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Present.
13	CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Gregg.
14	Dwight Burns.
15	COMMISSIONER BURNS: Here.
16	CHAIR GINOZA: Great, Dwight. Thanks, Dwight.
17	Donna Sterling.
18	(No response.)
19	CHAIR GINOZA: No Donna yet.
20	Punahele Alcon.
21	COMMISSIONER ALCON: Here.
22	CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Punahele.
23	Max Kincaid, Jr.
24	COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Here.
25	CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Max.

1	And Dylan Andrion.
2	COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Present. Good morning,
3	Chair.
4	CHAIR GINOZA: Good morning, Dylan.
5	And, Chief, could you mention who's in the room with
6	you today?
7	VICE CHAIR VARES: I think they're on mute.
8	CHAIR GINOZA: We can't hear you.
9	CHIEF THYNE: Sorry, our bad. We just clicked off.
10	Good morning, everybody. Obviously, I'm here
11	myself. Across from me, Deputy Chief Ventura; to his left,
12	Assistant Chief Kawasaki; and to his left, Assistant Chief
13	Werner; and behind us here off-camera is Richelle Wakamatsu.
14	Good morning, everybody.
15	CHAIR GINOZA: Good morning. And I see we have Gary
16	Murai, our corporation counsel.
17	MR. MURAI: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
18	CHAIR GINOZA: Good morning. Do we have do we
19	have Herman? Or who do we have from Maui Emergency
20	Management?
21	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right here, Mr. Chair.
22	CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, okay. Great. Thank you, Herman.
23	Okay. Is there anybody else that I didn't
24	recognize?
25	(No response.)

1	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Seeing none, let's go to
2	the sorry. You know what, I don't have I think I have
3	the wrong agenda. What is sorry. Can somebody mention
4	what the next item is? Isn't didn't we approve the minutes
5	the last meeting? Or did we?
6	MR. MURAI: Mr. Chair, these up for approval are
7	the minutes of the May 26th meeting.
8	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. So I do have the right agenda.
9	Okay.
10	MR. MURAI: But you know what, you're right, did
11	I know that last week there was a special meeting, and I don't
12	know whether I can't remember if we approved the May 26th
13	minutes at that meeting.
14	CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, okay. So can we just can we
15	just approve it again?
16	MR. MURAI: Yeah, why don't we do that, out of an
17	out of an abundance of caution.
18	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, okay. So I I hope everybody
19	has had a chance to sorry, to review the May 26th meeting
20	minutes that was that were provided. So I trust nobody
21	needs more time, so could I have a motion to accept the to
22	approve the May 26th meeting minutes?
23	COMMISSIONER ANDRION: So moved. This is Dylan.
24	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Dylan.
25	And a second? We need a second.

1	COMMISSIONER BURNS: Second.
2	CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, second by Dwight.
3	Okay. All in favor, raise your hand.
4	(Response.)
5	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Seeing everybody, thank you,
6	the minutes are approved.
7	So the next item is the is public testimony.
8	Richelle, do we have anybody here or signed signed up to
9	testify?
10	MS. WAKAMATSU: No, nobody through me.
11	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.
12	Is there anybody on the call wishing to testify?
13	Please unmute yourself and recognize yourself.
14	(No response.)
15	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Seeing none, public testimony
16	is closed.
17	Next, we have Maui Emergency Management Agency.
18	Herman, would you like to begin?
19	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Members
20	of the Commission. We continue to be in partial activation
21	due to COVID. We're at about 465 days now since we've been in
22	activation, so this has been by far the longest activation for
23	the EOC. We participated in numerous video conferences with
24	the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and various state
25	agencies regarding COVID coordination efforts.

Hurricane season started on June 1st, and we are continuing to prepare for the season. MEMA has been conducting numerous EOC enhancement classes for our partners. Also, a lot of our staff members have been going through a lot of training, so we are -- we are preparing for this season. There has been already some storm systems. The latest one was Carlos; luckily, it -- it petered out. It -- it started encountering some wind sheer, and so it -- it died down before it reached the 140, the 140 longitude, but we're continuing to monitor. Although, this season is supposed to be a quieter season because we're -- we're in what they call ENSO neutral. We're still preparing, nonetheless, so -- 'cause all it takes is just one hurricane to come here, and so we're preparing for that.

We also met with the architects to explain the specific functions and needs of an EOC, and this is in preparation for the design of the new EOC at the Hawaiian Tel Building, so we've been -- we've been working on that. As you know, our EOC is a pretty -- it's pretty small, and we have about 62 people in the room during activation, so it's important that we -- we get a bigger room, and we want something that's more functional, so we're working with our architects on that.

With respect to public outreach, we've been doing a media blitz because of the start of the hurricane season.

We've had radio ads now out, print ads, as well as we'll be playing TV ads in the near future. So that's all in the works.

We also distributed these books. It's a book that was written by Dennis Wang, he's an attorney on Oahu, but his book is on how to prepare your house for hurricanes, how to make it more hurricane -- I mean, so it's not vulnerable to hurricanes. And so we distributed those books at various, like, home improvement type of stores, so Lowe's, Home Depot, Ace.

In terms of communications, we're in the process of updating our satellite phones in various locations. For us, it's important that we have redundancy, and so although we have, like, 800 megahertz radios, high-wave radios, and as well as, like, ham radios, things like that, we also have satellite phones in the event that communication goes down. And so we'll be upgrading Molokai, Lanai, Hana, and Lahaina's sat phones, and we'll be using Homeland Security monies to purchase these phones.

With respect to hazard mitigation, we have a Fire Management Assistance Grant, an FMAG, that we had applied for due -- because of the Kahana fire, the brush fire that occurred a couple years ago, and so we got \$472,261 for that. And so what we're gonna use it for is fire -- a hazardous fuels reduction project at Ukumehame, and so we've been --

we've been working on that.

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We've also arranged training for Maui County departments for individual and public assistance. And so after an event occurs, after, say, a natural disaster, the next thing you have to do is do damage assessment, and based on the damage assessment, then we can apply for federal funding. And so it's important that we're -- we're trained in that, that we're able to get our partners to be able to go out into the field and properly assess damages so that we can then put a package together and transmit it for public assistance. We were able to get public assistance this year, and so --President Biden did approve it, and so for the Haiku floods, we'll be getting federal funds for that, federal reimbursements. And so it's not -- it's not all the time that we -- that, you know -- well, for Maui, this is our -- our fifth -- fifth or sixth presidentially declared emergency now in the last ten years, so it's happening quite a bit here. Ιn other jurisdictions, some of them have not even had one presidentially declared emergency, so just to give you an idea.

We received approval from FEMA for the standalone hazard mitigation project website. We applied for this grant, it was about \$100,000 or so, and so we will be contracting with a -- a contractor soon to create the website for us, and this is for hazard mitigation.

We also started working with all the county departments to submit requests and reimbursements for funds for FEMA for the March storm event, and so we're estimating about \$8 million to be reimbursed for that.

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The Maui EOP -- I'm sorry, the Emergency Operations

Plan has just recently been updated and was promulgated by

Mayor Victorino last month, and so this is the -- kind of our

bible, this is what we -- it's a document that we follow,

procedures and protocols with respect to how we address

emergencies, so --

We also worked with, in respect to COVID, the Transpacific Post-Arrival Testing Program, so you may have heard about this. This is where we conducted tests out in the airport after visitors arrived from the mainland, and so we've -- we were -- we were the ones that did the concept of -- the concept of operations for that plan as well as the plan itself for that.

And, let's see, we also started -- started training some of our personnel at our remote incident command posts, so these are what we call the ICPs, and we have them on Molokai, Lanai, and Hana. Since they have new -- new commanders now there, it was important that we -- we conduct training with them to have them understand our process with the -- with the EOC and, you know, just communication protocols and things like that, and so we've been going through with them on that.

1	That's all. That's all I have for now, Mr. Chair,
2	pending any questions from the commission.
3	CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Herman.
4	Does does any commissioner have any questions for
5	Herman?
6	COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah. Herman, who would be
7	the Lanai entity here?
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Ø	CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Max.
9	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: That's a good question. I
10	kept she's it's a new it's a new person, the new
11	lieutenant on Lanai. I can't
12	COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Joy.
13	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: I'm sorry.
14	COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Joy Medeiros.
15	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Joy Medeiros, yes, that's
16	that's the person.
17	COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay. Thank you.
18	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So she took from Brian Manapa,
19	Lieutenant Brian Manapa. So, yes, she's the new person. And
20	then we also have been dealing with Sergeant Massey on Lanai
21	as well, so
22	COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Thank you.
23	MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: You're welcome.
24	CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Herman.
25	Any other questions for Herman by commissioners?

1 (No response.) 2 CHAIR GINOZA: Last chance. 3 (No response.) 4 CHAIR GINOZA: Okav. Thank you, Herman. 5 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you. 6 CHAIR GINOZA: So let's move on to the fire 7 department, Chief Thyne. Are you -- I think you need to unmute yourself. 8 9 CHIEF THYNE: Sorry. We were trusting that you could all read lips, I guess, but -- I apologize for that. 10 11 Good morning, Chair and Commissioners again. 12 not sure what you have in your packet, but in ours, I have our 13 May as well as the June, but I'm not gonna go through the May one if you have it. Basically, I was just gonna go through 14 15 the numbers that we have on the two sheets regarding training and operations as far as that goes. And you'll see just an 16 17 uptick just based on our tourists and more people coming to 18 Hawaii. We're gonna start seeing those upticks in, you know, ocean rescues and things of that nature. And then, of course, 19 20 as we get into summertime and the heat of the -- of the 21 summer, we're gonna get, potentially, you know, fire as well, 22 and -- fires and brush fires. And so we did -- on the 23 training page, you'll see that that was our focus this past 24 quarter, was training our -- our crews in wildland fire attack 25 and water supply and those things that they're gonna need for

those type of incidents.

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So other than that, for myself, this is my last meeting, and this has been a great opportunity. I will go back to about 18 years ago when I first started training as a -- a battalion chief. My mentor at the time told me that there's three phases in training when it comes to these types of roles, and so the first phase is just watch what I do, watch and learn; second is I'll explain it to you, I'm gonna teach you how to do it; and the third phase is what we're in right now, I feel, and that's you're doing it, I'm just here as an advisor. And so that's what we've been doing with Chief Ventura this past couple of months, is just letting him kind of run with things, and then I'm just there if he has to bounce an idea off of, much like with Chief Kawasaki and Werner as well. So that's why I don't have an update because I've been strictly in an advisory role and helping to coordinate with where -- where I can as far as with our fiscal year budget spin down and our crossing of the T's and dotting of the i's with the new fiscal year budget coming on.

So that's why I don't have an update, but if you have questions, I'm here to answer questions on the update that I didn't give you. So thanks again for the opportunity. I'm sure I'll be seeing you all, but I appreciate your support and your efforts on the commission over the years, so thank you very much.

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Thank you, Chief Thyne.
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                CHAIR GINOZA:
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                I see we also have Commissioner Sterling. Welcome,
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      Donna.
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                COMMISSIONER STERLING: Good morning.
                CHAIR GINOZA: Does anybody have any questions or
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      notes of congratulations for Chief Thyne?
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                (No response.)
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                CHAIR GINOZA: I quess nobody, Chief Thyne.
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                Lisa.
                VICE CHAIR VARES: Okay. Congratulations, Chief
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      Thyne, you definitely deserve it. I'd also like to
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      congratulate you guys for setting up such an efficient and
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      transparent procedure and policy for us as a commission. I've
      only known the commission with you as our chief, and it's been
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      excellent. Any question we've ever had, you guys always have
      an answer either at your fingertips, or you'll get right back
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      to us with it, and that's -- that's commendable, that's all we
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      can really ask of you, and you've always provided that, so
      thank you so much. It's made being on this commission a
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      million (inaudible), and so thank you and congratulations.
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                CHIEF THYNE:
                              Thanks.
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                COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Mr. Chair.
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                CHAIR GINOZA: Yes.
                COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I'd like to say a couple of
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      words if it's okay.
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CHAIR GINOZA: Sure.

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COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief Thyne, you know, our -- our time together has -- has gone quickly, but, you know, like Lisa mentioned, we've learned a tremendous amount about the fire department and how the inner workings go and, you know, one thing I respect you tremendously for is your ability to be open and honest with your feedback, transparent with your operations and your leadership style. We, unfortunately, are losing you prior to the end of our term, so we will -- I will have done -- gone through two fire chiefs, but, you know, we respect you tremendously for what you've done and what you've brought to the team. You've built a great base. I think Brad is -- is doing a wonderful job as your deputy, but we'll miss you. Enjoy your retirement. Hopefully, you're going fishing and doing fun stuff, so all the best to you and to your family, and we'll see you on the other side.

CHIEF THYNE: Thank you, sir.

CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

All right. So seeing no one else, let's move on to Brad.

DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right. Aloha. Good morning, everybody. Thank you for taking time out of your day to be with us. Appreciate you all. So I do want to kind of just start by sharing the sentiments that you guys just

shared, you know. I've appreciated Chief Thyne, you know, being in the role that he's been in the last several years. And I'm not just talking about his time as chief, but his time as assistant chief that he spent, you know, a decade in and really helping our department move forward in every position that he was in. So we do appreciate what he's done, and we are gonna miss him as well.

Moving forward, what I'd like to provide for you guys, you have my report before you, but I'm gonna add some things to the top that Chief Thyne normally covers, and that is just some of the activities that we've had with organizations outside of ours this month. We did receive a letter from DLNR discussing the potential of moving forward with the Makena lifeguards again, and so that has been a -- a point of conversation both with our department as well the community for the last year since DLNR ended that contract with us when COVID hit. So we've been in conversation with them to try to get that started up again. They are in support of it. If you've watched the news lately, they're -- they did find a \$600 million surplus, and I think that's kind of spurred their efforts to get things going back on the beaches and in other areas.

We worked with county council and provided information that they needed. They passed our budget; it's now with the mayor for final signature, and so our budget for

the following -- this coming Fiscal Year '22 is looking favorable. It's set up very well for our department to have success again.

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We additionally identified what just came on the market in Pukoo, Molokai, is a potential site for us to move our current fire station. We're currently in a building of disrepair, and it's not owned by the county, so it's been a project we've been working on for two or three years to try to move that crew into a county-owned facility. And so something did just recently come on the market. We've had conversations with the realtors to kind of put a hold on their sale so that the county could have an opportunity to put in an offer, so we're working with council members as well as counsel. We've got funding approved on this year's budget, which was added to the last two weeks, so we were able to work with them to do a budget amendment right as we were kind of coming to the finish line.

Now we're working with Department of Hawaiian Home
Lands because the lot that we're looking at is fee simple, and
it's accessible by a small narrow driveway; however, the land
is surrounded by Hawaiian Home Land, so we'll be asking for an
easement space so that we have easier access for the fire
truck to come and go from the property that we're looking at.
In this -- in the recent couple of weeks that we've been
working on this project, we've also had a community meeting on

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Molokai where members from the community attended and were able to give their manao and also input into this project of the Pukoo Fire Station, so that's been a very -- a busy little, let's say, two weeks that we've been working on that project and we're -- we're very hopeful right now. We have a meeting next week Wednesday again with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and their beneficiaries because that is the ultimate decision group to determine if we get the easement to make this property work.

Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association offers an educational conference on one island every year, and it rotates. Last year COVID hit, so we had to cancel what was gonna happen on What they've decided to do this year was a virtual Maui. conference in November, so it's probably gonna be a one-day It'll be several speakers that we get lined up to discuss a variety of, you know, hot fire topics and all of the firefighters from the state and the western division will all be invited, and sometimes, you know, chiefs from further on the mainland do decide to come to our conference. This year, being that it's virtual, it's gonna be interesting. It'll be, you know, kind of the concept that's been going around with many of the conferences in the past, you know, six months just being a -- kind of a one-way information given to the community that's -- that's at the conference and sharing, you know, on topics of whatever the discipline of the conference

is.

So those are the topics that are kind of outside, you know, entities of our department that we're constantly dealing with. I'd like to pause there to give an opportunity if anybody has questions regarding those subjects before I move on to my normal report.

CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Thank you, Chief Ventura.

Does any commissioners have any questions about what he just brought up before we move on?

COMMISSIONER STERLING: (Gesturing.)

CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Donna.

COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes, Chair.

Thanks, Chief Ventura. What is the acreage of

Hawaiian -- DHHL land you're talking about getting an easement

at Pukoo?

DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Good question. So the Pukoo site, and if you want to kind of jot this down for your notes, it's -- the address we're looking at is 7541 Kamehameha V Highway, 7541 Kamehameha V Highway. That's the parcel that's for sale, and it's surrounded by DHHL property of various sizes. To the east, there's a one-and-a-half acre parcel; to the mauka side, there's two 2-acre parcels, and then above that, there -- I've been told there's a -- like a several-hundred-acre parcel. If you're familiar with Molokai, it is Water Tank Road on the east end where the parcels are located.

What we're looking for is basically -- 20 feet is what we're 1 2 looking for. We're not looking for several acres, but 20 feet 3 along our driveway, which would create access --4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Okav. DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- so that we could get a 5 6 fire truck up there. We currently have what's called a 7 government road to this property that we're looking to buy, which is on six-feet wide, can't fit a fire truck on it. 8 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Okay. Great. Thank you. Thanks, Chair. 10 11 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, Donna. 12 Any other questions from commissioners before Chief 13 Ventura moves on? 14 (No response.) 15 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Seeing none, please continue. DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right. Great. So for my 16 normal report, I'll cover interviews and promotions first. 17 The firefighter training orientation happened recently. 18 we do is we bring them in for a day, we do all of their 19 20 uniform sizing, we do -- we give them prerequisites for class, 21 which is gonna start July 1. So they have to do all of their 22 EMR reading and workbook activities, they have to go online 23 and take several classes, part of it is our wildfire 24 curriculum so that they -- that's stuff that they -- we 25 preload so that when they come to class, we can make the

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academy somewhat shorter. Not much shorter, but it helps —
it helps give them the prerequisite information that they need
to be ready to go when they make it to the class. So that
happened on June 28th. The recruits will start on July 1st,
and we're looking at this time with a graduation date of
January 7th. And, you know, our academy is — is detailed,
long, arduous, and so we put them through a wide variety, as
most of you know, of, you know, skills and evaluations so that
they become, you know, well-prepared firefighters.

Our improvement -- department improvement committee, we've focused this last month on getting a few things out to our members. So COVID has had a -- a large impact on people's mental and physical wellness, so we -- we've recognized that with our members, and we've constantly been trying to give them tools in their toolbox to -- to stay healthy in every way, in mind, spirit, and body. And you'll see on our monthly update; we've had phone numbers so they can reach out to people to get help. We've put out several emails. Our articles that we put in our monthly -- our quarterly newsletter are about wellness and taking care of your family. Last week we put out an app with the help of some of our union guys so that every firefighter who wants to download this app has access to all of our peer support team, an 800 phone number -- or a 1-800 phone number so they can call for help if they're, you know, having a bad day or just want to talk to

somebody. And then the most recent thing we did just last week was we identified a first responder psychologist that we're -- we're wanting to work and give training to our members, as well as offer potential one-on-one conversations that people may just need to talk to somebody about.

And there's a -- there's a stigma in the first responders and the -- you know, our service that, you know, we're macho and tough and we don't need help, but that's been -- we're trying to break that down over the last five to ten years that, you know, firefighters, first responders, medics, police officers are exposed to a lot of things that they can't internalize and keep to themselves, and they should seek help so that they can remain, you know, balanced and be able to continue serving the community. So we think this opportunity for our firefighters to reach out to somebody who has first responder background and psychology will be able to be a more comfortable environment for them to speak.

Union Interactions: Our two main activities, you know, our firefighters' union and our lifeguard union, keep us busy with a variety of things. We're always doing consultation on policy and procedures, so we're working on kind of revamping our promotional process with the firefighter side of things, as well as creating task books for temporary assignments. So if a position is vacant, like a captain, and we're gonna use a -- utilize a driver to fill that position

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for the day, we want to make sure that they're qualified, we want to make sure they've done all the prerequisite, you know, education, training, and they have the knowledge to fill the position that they TA to. So a task book would identify the things that we need them to do, and they would do it prior to going to the TA position. So we're working with the union to try to make that a fair process. So the goal is always to make it so that they're qualified and capable of doing the job, but it's not harder than actually getting the job, which right now, you take a test, you do an interview, and you get promoted. A task book can be at sometimes kind of challenging, and you have to, you know, take certain classes and provide demonstration of certain skills and abilities, and so we don't want to drag it out too much that it's impossible to do, but we want people -- the right people in the right seat. So the task book is a great idea.

Our ocean safety officers, we work back and forth with the union to create what we call an MSA, which is modified special assignment. In our department, we don't have light duty. Everybody's who's working has a certain level and criteria of physicality and medical clearance that they have to meet at every level, so we don't have light duty anywhere in our department. So if somebody were to get injured, but were be -- able to be put on modified special assignment, they would be able to come to work and do whatever the doctor-

approved level of work, and still work for the department and do maybe paperwork or office supplies, ordering, deliveries during, that period of time. So ocean safety has not had a program like that, whereas fire has had a program like, but we still had to consult with that union to make sure they were okay with the program before we set that forth. So that just -- ironically just went out today after about a month and a half, two months of working with them on it, so that was a good thing.

And lastly, transmittals, you know, to and from the public. We had a few things that came our way regarding Makena. With all the tourism coming back, people are just wondering when the lifeguards are, you know, gonna be reinstated, so we -- we are open to conversations with DLNR, they're the ones that provide the funding for the lifeguards on that state beach, and so we're happy to see that that conversation is back up and running.

Napili Fire Station, we had a really nice letter sent to our office, which we shared with the men and women that are in the Napili Fire Station. They had a walk-in medical where somebody had a pretty major hand injury, and they couldn't -- it was when all the urgent care offices were closed. So the firefighters kind of wrapped it up, put the fingers in the right position, and they were able to get a surgeon, and the surgeon was very happy of the way that it was

prepared in the field for the surgeon to be able to do his work. And so the person has full use of their hands today, even though it was, like I said, major fingers broken, tendons injured. And so they were able to, you know, do real good work, and so that was sent out to the firefighters out there and let them know that they're doing good work.

2.4

And then, lastly, with -- like Director Andaya was mentioning, it's hurricane season. For us, it's all wildfire season, so we've been working with our Facebook guys to make sure they put out as much information for the public. We've been supporting, and as much as Herman guys are putting out, we're putting out as much as we can to support their, you know, education of the public because, you know, we might have different followers than they have on Makaala. So our Facebook page has been pretty active lately as far as, you know, wildfire education and hurricane season.

That concludes my report to you all. Any questions?

CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Ventura.

COMMISSIONER STERLING: (Gesturing.)

CHAIR GINOZA: Donna.

COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. I just have a comment. I'm really glad that under the wellness committee, you folks have set up the psychologist available for the fire -- the firemen, the fire department, which is really needed for, you know, PTSD and to unload. I'm really happy

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with the psychologist being available. Very nice, very nice.
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 2
                Thank you, Chair.
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                CHAIR GINOZA:
                               Thank you, Donna.
 4
                Any other questions or comments for Chief Ventura by
 5
      commissioners?
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                COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah, Chief. This is Max.
 7
      We got our arsonist, so you guys are -- can lay back a little
 8
      easier these days.
 9
                As far as a psychologist, be careful; that's a
      double-edged sword, especially if you put them on your entry
10
11
      and to interview your possible firemen.
12
                DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Thank you.
13
                CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Max.
14
                Any other concerns or questions?
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                COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: None here, Chair.
16
                CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Gregg.
17
                COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: No. I was saying nothing,
18
      nothing from me. Thank you.
19
                CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, okay. Thank you.
20
                So seeing none, let's move on to Chief Kawasaki.
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                ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Okay. Good morning.
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      I'll make this really quick so we can get to what everybody's
23
      waiting for, the -- get this ball rolling again with our chief
      selection.
2.4
25
                So, anyway, I did have in my notes, we did have a
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bunch of small brush fires that started to, you know, come up in May. We had a bunch of small ones that, luckily, our guys on Lanai caught before they got out of hand. We were, you know, already starting to prepare for eventually one of those fires would be -- you know, end up a big fire, but -- I wasn't sure about the -- the arsonist, I was gonna ask Max, but we just heard that somebody was arrested. So since then, we haven't had anything there, so, hopefully, that was our person, and we don't have that threat anymore.

The other thing I'd like to point out is I think

Mike Werner has been doing a really good job with the brush

abatement and mowing and plowing and planting a shift every

day of Haleakala Highway, so, hopefully, you know, we'll still

have fires, but not gonna be those big ones that we've had for

the last couple years.

Our standard operation guidelines has done their revisions; the new one got distributed this month.

I just got back from Texas. We did a final inspection for the mini truck for Station 1, Wailuku Station. We did identify one major problem there that's being fixed right now, and then that truck should be on its way for shipping within the next week or two. And then I checked with our -- our sales rep, our two pumpers for Wailuku and Lahaina Stations are still currently at the shop on the West Coast, and they have a couple more things to address, and then they

should be prepared to ship shortly. I'm quessing we should 1 2 get that, those two trucks mid-Julyish, early to mid-July. 3 Chief already talked about our recruit class. And the last thing I had was ocean safety. We are 4 in the process of trying to get seven positions hired so that, 5 6 hopefully, it gets done by about August. 7 And other than that, that's all I have. Thank you. Thank you, Chief Kawasaki. 8 CHAIR GINOZA: 9 Does any commissioner have any comment or questions? 10 (No response.) 11 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you. 12 Chief Werner. 13 ASSISTANT CHIEF WERNER: Hi. Good morning, Commissioners. For my bureau updates starting with the fire 14 15 prevention bureau, we recently sent two of the members there to an FBI IED explosives training, and their main objective 16 was to learn how to recognize signs of an IED being used 17 during their investigations. An IED is an improvised 18 explosive device, and that's when you take compounds or 19 20 chemicals that are created for one purpose and mix together to 21 create an explosive. So it was a good training for them. 22 Prevention is also working -- they're putting a very 23 strong effort into getting ready for the MAPPS Go Live, which 2.4 is currently scheduled to go live this October. It's been --25 taken quite a bit of effort on their part to get ready for

that, but they've got a good plan in place and are moving forward on that.

Another project that they are working on, which is a really good one, which is a community risk reduction geared towards communities that interface with wildland areas. And they worked recently with the Launiupoko Community

Association, and what they did is they provided education to the community association members, and then those members went out in their community to look for hazards that related to wildland fires. They came back, reported to the investigator, who then went out and looked at what they had discovered and then gave them advice on that and/or actually, you know, wrote up violations, that type of stuff. So it's -- and then they got some feedback from those community members on, you know, what worked well with the program and what didn't. So I think it has a lot of promise.

Also, they've been -- they being the fire prevention bureau, has been working with our PIO to get ready for the 4th of July. They put out a press release recently talking about the prohibitions of fireworks, and also safety tips, where they could get permits, when they're allowed to use fireworks, and then also that's been put out on our Maui Fire Department Facebook page.

Moving on to our health and safety bureau, our medical director is up and going. He's very proactive. He's

already read through all of our current training programs and offered some advice, and wanted to implement some new things, so we're excited to have him on board. He's great.

There's been some changes as far as what masks we're allowed to use. KN95s are no longer acceptable for our first responders, so we worked with Herman Andaya and MEMA to get our PPE for our medical response updated. They gave us quite a bit of N95s, so our guys are all up to par on that and ready for that.

Our health and safety cadre put together an exercise program; it's up and running on our Instagram site. I've been following it. I haven't been doing the exercises myself, they're too rigorous for me, but it's really neat to see these guys putting these out and following them.

And then for our health and safety, also, they're preparing for an operations level safety officer two-day training that's gonna happen this month, June 28th and 29th.

And then, finally, for this bureau, one of the big challenges that we're having is O_2 . We're finding out for our medical oxygen that the prices for filling our tanks is gonna go up by a big number, and so we're looking into how we're gonna deal with that. So they're spending a lot of time working on that.

And then moving on to our budget planning and appropriations committee, our extractors for Paia, Napili, and

Kula arrived, and our FSO is working with our vendors to get 1 2 the electric and plumbing hooked up so that those things will 3 go online. 4 Our grants team, they got word that we were awarded two CDBG trucks, one is the Mini 9 for Hoolehua, and the other 5 6 is the Engine 7 for Hana, and they have an alternate of a 7 tanker for Hana. And then, finally, they're working on our -the DLT FY '22 grant period is opening up, there's been a lot 8 9 of changes to that, so they've been reviewing the changes and then preparing for applications for FY '22. 10 11 That's my report, and I'm happy to answer any 12 questions you have. 13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Werner. 14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: (Gesturing.) 15 CHAIR GINOZA: I see Donna has a question. COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. 16 There's three things I wanted to mention, Chief. Regarding the -- I don't know if 17 you remember, months ago I brought up the fire and police 18 19 scanner. 20 CHIEF WERNER: Yes. 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I did leave a message. 22 Brother, it's up and running suddenly. I don't know what 23 happened, but one day I just turned it on, and there it is,

I don't know whose -- how it happened, but I can just tell you

Maui County Fire and Police Scanner. It's up and running, so

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thank you. Thank you very much, whoever did it.
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                CHIEF WERNER: Yeah. Is that through -- is that
 3
      through Maui 24/7?
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, it -- I don't know, I
 4
 5
      have to do my research, but it's up and running, and for Maui
 6
      County, we're represented.
 7
                CHIEF WERNER: Oh, good, good.
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: Great. The other thing I
 8
 9
      wanted to mention is, you know, the community interfacing
      program that Launiupoko went through; I think we're really
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11
      interested. Kahikinui would be interested if we could talk
12
      later offline about a similar program here at Kahikinui.
                And, you know, I -- the third thing is on Kahoolawe,
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      I got to be a UXO Tech 1. My question is on FBI IED
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15
      explosives. How long were their training to identify IEDs
      with the FBI?
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17
                ASSISTANT CHIEF WERNER: That was --
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: That's all my questions.
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                ASSISTANT CHIEF WERNER: It was a two-day course for
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20
      the -- for that, that training. And then regarding your
      request for Kahikinui, I think that they'd be more than happy
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22
      to --
23
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
2.4
                CHIEF WERNER: The more communities -- and it's --
25
      they're focusing on community associations.
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COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. 1 2 CHIEF WERNER: But it doesn't have to end there. 3 Anything that we can do to help the community recognizes the 4 threats that are in their community, then we're more than happy to be a part of. 5 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Great. Thank you, Chair. 7 Thank you, Chief. 8 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Donna. 9 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: (Gesturing.) CHAIR GINOZA: Max, do you have a question? 10 11 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah. I'm not sure. Does 12 the fire department utilize chaplains? 13 CHIEF WERNER: I believe that we've always used your folks, the police chaplain. At least when I was a young 14 firefighter, that's who came out to provide quidance to us in 15 those situations. And, actually, I remember not that long ago 16 another one with our team, Paul came out. But we don't have 17 our own chaplain that I know of. 18 Chief, do you know? 19 20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So I can just kind of 21 add to that. Like Chief Werner is saying, we rely on the 22 chaplains of the community, police being one of them. 23 recently just had somebody from the mainland reach out to us 2.4 where there was a death in the family in the mainland, but 25 their family was on vacation here. And so they wanted to make

notification to this family that was on vacation, so we 1 2 reached out to a chaplain to help make that effort. So the 3 chaplains have their own network of community, and through our CISM team and whatnot, we're able to reach out. So we have 4 5 different chaplains on the west side, different chaplains on 6 the south side, different chaplains in town, so we can reach 7 out to them. And, you know, they're -- they're servants, they love what they do, and so they're willing to take the call 8 9 when we -- when we reach out to them. You know, they want to be -- they want to be there for the community and the people 10 11 any time they can, so when we call, they're great. 12 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay. Thank you. 13 CHAIR GINOZA: Any other questions from commissioners? 14 15 VICE CHAIR VARES: I have one. 16 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Lisa. 17 VICE CHAIR VARES: Chief Werner, when it comes to the IED explosives training, was that the -- focused on 18 because of the homemade firework bombs that people are using, 19 20 especially in July and New Year's, or is it -- was the 21 training more geared toward like an urban terrorism kind of 22 thing? Because it links together. 23 CHIEF WERNER: So I'll give you what I know, and 2.4 then I can also do a little bit more research on it for you, 25 but it was my understanding it was not just geared towards the

fire department; it was DLNR, the police, but also people who import those types of compounds so that they could recognize, for instance, a certain compound now being purchased in unusual amounts and they could also report that to the authorities saying, Hey, this group is ordering ridiculous amounts of this compound and this other type of compound. And so I think it was more of an awareness of what's -- you know, to recognize those things as well as being able to recognize when they've been used after the fact.

VICE CHAIR VARES: Perfect. Okay, great. Thanks for the info.

CHAIR GINOZA: Any other questions by commissioners?

(No response.)

CHAIR GINOZA: I have a quick one. That's great that you guys got some vehicles for -- from CDBG. Could you just explain what kind of requests you do for the DOT grants?

CHIEF WERNER: So in the past, we've done -- like we did a small multiuse, like, jaws tool for -- so, like, when we have to go out to, like, Kahakuloa or places like that where we have to use our minis to get in those areas for a vehicle accident, we needed a special type of a tool for that that related to a highway type of an incident, so we got those tools for that. We put in for airbags, which will lift, you know, a truck off of another person or another truck, that type of stuff; struts, anything that's related to department

of transportation kind of a safety or an incident involving that type of incident. I don't -- I think they're gonna gear more towards education type of stuff rather than equipment in the future, so that's what we're doing, is we're looking into the new guidelines that they just recently put out, and then we'll meet as a whole along with the grants team to decide on what we want to put in for.

CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Great. Thank you.

If no other commissioner has any -- any more

If no other commissioner has any -- any more questions for Chief Werner, we'll move on to the next item, which is our New Business, Approval of the Temporary Investigative Group's Recommendations Regarding Issuing an Amended Notice For the Vacancy of the Fire Chief Position.

So, Lisa, do you -- do you want me -- do you want to go over what we spoke about? So we had a meeting, and for this meeting, we're gonna decide about how we want the posting and if we approve of the recommendation from the TIG to post the amended notice. Lisa, do you have any comments?

VICE CHAIR VARES: I guess just to (inaudible).

CHAIR GINOZA: You're cutting out.

VICE CHAIR VARES: Nope, no comments. You've got it. That's exactly right, Kyle.

CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. So essentially what happened, for those who hadn't tuned in for our last meeting, is we've -- the TIG had gone through the -- the posting and had

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decided that there were some deficiencies in what we should've
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      posted, and so in order to resolve those deficiencies, we
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      had -- the TIG had come up with a revised notice that would --
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      would shore it up. And so unless others have any comments on
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      the revised -- the amended posting, I believe for us today,
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      it's to determine if -- what the duration of opening the --
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      the application period, so, you know, we could consider, say,
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      like a 15-day opening for the -- for the applications or, you
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      know, and also when we would post it. So for me, my
      recommendation would be --
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11
                Well, maybe, Lisa, you provide a recommendation
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      since it's a TIG-driven effort.
                VICE CHAIR VARES: I would -- I would like to see,
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      and I'd like to recommend that we follow the exact
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15
      requirements that are in (inaudible).
                CHAIR GINOZA: You're cutting out again, so perhaps
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      maybe Donna or Dwight that -- who also participated on the TIG
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18
      can provide some insight.
                MR. MURAI: Actually, you know, Kyle, this is Gary.
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                CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Gary.
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21
                MR. MURAI: Lisa, I think if you disable -- if you
22
      disable your video, that gives you an additional bandwidth so
23
      that we can hear your audio.
2.4
                VICE CHAIR VARES: Yeah, I did that.
25
                MR. MURAI: I think you turned off your camera, so
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if you do that, I think your audio comes out a lot clearer.
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 2
                VICE CHAIR VARES: Okay, Guys. Can you hear me now
 3
      okay?
                CHAIR GINOZA: Yes.
 4
                VICE CHAIR VARES: Okay. So I would like to see,
 5
 6
      and I'd like to recommend (inaudible) and nothing more.
 7
                CHAIR GINOZA: You're still not coming through.
 8
                VICE CHAIR VARES: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.
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                CHAIR GINOZA: So, I guess, does it -- does any
      commissioner have any comments on -- or want to discuss? You
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11
      know, we can -- we can consider a -- you know, what duration
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      to leave it open, say 15 days up or to a --
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                Go ahead, Donna.
14
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you, Chair.
15
      everybody hear me?
                CHAIR GINOZA:
16
                               Yes.
17
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you. So, according to
      our -- the charter here, this, it says that once a week for
18
      three consecutive weeks and by circulating such notice
19
20
      throughout the department. And then it says what it will say
      in the text. But I would like to recommend that from our --
21
22
      our HRS.
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                MR. MURAI: Mr. Chair.
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                CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Gary.
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                MR. MURAI: I have a suggestion.
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CHAIR GINOZA: Sure.

MR. MURAI: So just to clarify, the TIG presented its recommendation and amended notice at the last meeting, so today, because, you know, it's a process. At this meeting, all the commission is gonna do is approve the reposting.

CHAIR GINOZA: Okay.

MR. MURAI: And the format of the announcement. The only thing that the commission needs to do -- and, you know, I don't -- I don't think it needs to be done in a meeting, but what I would suggest to the commission is that, you know, we have staff contact the Star-Advertiser. I don't know whether -- for all I know, we might have already sent it to them to be typeset and -- 'cause normally the process is you submit your request, the newspaper sends you back a proof, you approve the proof and just tell them when to run the -- run the notice. It could be as soon as, say, maybe Sunday. I know that lots of people, they like to publish like on Sundays and Wednesdays, 'cause those are generally the highest circulation dates -- days, rather.

And so for the sake of discussion, if it's posted this Sunday, it'll be Sunday the 19th, the 26th, and I believe the -- I'm sorry, the 20th, 27th, and the 4th. If it's a Wednesday, it would be the 30th, the 7th, and the 14th. So however soon the Star-Advertiser can accommodate us. Now, as far as the amount of time to keep the applications open,

there's no, you know, requirement for how many days. I would recommend something reasonable like you had mention 15 days. If we look at other postings as a guide, for example, the Maui Police Commission has also recently published a notice for a chief, police chief recruitment, and their -- their notice says 15 days after the last posting. So your suggestion of 15 days is reasonable. So all the commission is going to do is -- what you need is a motion to approve the amended notice that was -- that was presented to the commission at the last meeting.

CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Gary, for the clarification.

So could I have a motion to approve the -- oh, wait, I think Lisa might have a question. Before we -- Lisa has a question to Gary. Are the current applicants permitted to resubmit with additional information or changes? And I believe we -- I mean, they can resubmit until the deadline, so, I mean, Gary, do you want to chime in?

MR. MURAI: Yeah, you know, I think -- yeah, we had talked about this informally, but if you want to confirm it, I think what the TIG had discussed was, number one, the current applicants do not need to resubmit; however, I think you folks also talked about allowing current applicants to submit additional information if they wish. But, you know, although that's something that, you know, the -- the commission could

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have accepted on its own anyway, but, if you want to clarify
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      that for the record, I -- like I said, that was what I think
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      I -- my recollection is that's what the TIG was contemplating,
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      number one, the current applicants -- applications we already
 5
      have do not need to be resubmitted; however, if they wanted to
 6
      supplement by the deadline for post -- for submission, then
 7
      they're free to do so as well.
 8
                CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, that was my recommendation as
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             So, yes, so those applicants can -- we've received
      well.
      them, and they can revise it if they want, otherwise --
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11
                MR. MURAI: Yeah, totally voluntary.
12
                CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Great.
13
                So, can I have a motion to -- to accept the amended
      notice and to be able to repost it when -- at its earliest
14
      convenience in the Star-Advertiser over the three weeks as
15
      well as to -- to have the end date 15 days after the last
16
      posting date?
17
18
                (No response.)
19
                CHAIR GINOZA:
                               Nobody?
20
                COMMISSIONER BURNS: Motion to accept.
21
                CHAIR GINOZA:
                               Thank you, Dwight.
22
                COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I second.
23
                CHAIR GINOZA:
                               Second?
                                        Second, Gregg.
2.4
                COMMISSIONER STERLING: I was writing everything
25
      down as -- for verbatim, but good one.
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CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. So all in favor of the motion,
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 2
      please -- or is there any discussion?
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                (No response.)
                CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Seeing none, all in favor of
 4
 5
      the motion, please raise your hand.
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                (Response.)
                CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Great. Looks like it's a
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      unanimous approval of the motion. So we'll work with staff to
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 9
      ensure that the amended notice is posted and -- for the three
      weeks and verify the date of that 15 days after the last
10
11
      posting.
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                All right. Great. Well, thank you, everybody, for
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      your time.
                And thank you, Chief Thyne, I echo everybody
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      else's -- all the other commissioners' words of
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      congratulations and thanks.
16
17
                And I think we'll see you at the -- or see everybody
      at the next scheduled meeting because there won't be any
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      applications in to have the TIG. So if there's no further
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      items, let's adjourn the meeting at 11:02. Thank you very
21
      much.
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              (The proceedings were adjourned at 11:02 a.m.)
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1	<u>CERTIFICATE</u>
2	STATE OF HAWAII)
3	COUNTY OF MAUI) SS.
4	
5	I, Sandra J. Gran, Certified Shorthand Reporter for
6	the State of Hawaii, hereby certify that on June 17, 2021, at
7	10:00 a.m., the proceedings were taken down by me in machine
8	shorthand and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form under
9	my supervision; that the foregoing represents, to the best of
10	my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings
11	had in the foregoing matter.
12	
13	I further certify that I am not an attorney for any
14	of the parties hereto, nor in any way concerned with the
15	cause.
16	
17	DATED this 28th day of June, 2021, in Maui, Hawaii.
18	
19	
20	
21	Sandra / low
22	Sandra J. Gran, RPR
23	Hawaii CSR 424
24	
25	